Serial No. 09/865,021

Please enter the following amendments prior to examination of the application.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 1, in the paragraph entitled "Related Applications:" from lines 1-4, please amend the paragraph to read as follows:

Related Applications:

This is a continuation of Serial No. 09/219,572 filed December 22, 1998, now Patent No. 6,240,231, which is a continuation-in-part of Serial No. 08/996,053 filed December 22, 1997, abandoned.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 9, 10, 11 and 30, without prejudice.

Please amend the claims as is indicated below:

1. (Amended) A variable stiffness optical fiber shaft for use in interventional therapy, comprising:

212147.1

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